

IN THE CLAIMS

Please amend the claims as follows:

Claim 1 (Currently Amended): A hair holder, comprising:

a flat tube having a sheet which forms a first side and a sheet which forms a second side ~~and being formed of a sheet in such a design~~ to allow a hair bundle to be inserted from an opening at one end thereof of the tube toward an opening at [[the]] an other end thereof,

the sheet which forms the first side of the tube is more extensible in [[the]] a length direction of the tube than the sheet which forms the second side of the tube, [[and]]

the sheet which forms the second side of the tube has a Taber stiffness of 0.4 mNm or higher, and

the sheet which forms the first side has an extensibility of at least 15 times an extensibility of the sheet which forms the second side under a load of 5 N.

Claim 2 (Canceled).

Claim 3 (Original): The hair holder according to claim 1, wherein the sheet which forms the first side has an extension of at least 5% under a load of 5 N.

Claim 4 (Previously Presented): The hair holder according to claim 1, wherein the sheet which forms the first side has a large number of openings making the sheet extensible.

Claim 5 (Previously Presented): The hair holder according to claim 1, wherein the sheet is permeable to a hair treating agent.

Claim 6 (Currently Amended): The hair holder according to claim 1, wherein at least one of the sheet which forms the first side and the sheet which forms the second side has a large number of through-holes each having a smooth edge on one side thereof, and the sheet which forms the first side and the sheet which forms the second side are joined together with [[the]] a side having [[the]] a smooth edge facing inside the tube.

Claim 7 (Currently Amended): The hair holder according to claim 1, wherein the tube is ~~designed~~ configured to roll itself up into a prescribed shape and to keep the rolled up state.

Claim 8 (Currently Amended): A method of treating hair, comprising:  
employing [the] a hair holder according to claim 1, including a flat tube having a sheet which forms a first side and a sheet which forms a second side, the sheet which forms the first side of the tube is more extensible in the length direction of the tube than the sheet which forms the second side of the tube, the sheet which forms the second side of the tube has a Taber stiffness of 0.4 mNm or higher, and the sheet which forms the first side has an extensibility of at least 15 times an extensibility of the sheet which forms the second side under a load of 5 N;

inserting a hair bundle through an opening at one end of the tube of the hair holder toward an opening at an other end thereof [,]; and  
rolling up the tube having the hair therein with the first side thereof facing out.

Claim 9 (New): The hair holder according to claim 1, wherein the sheet which forms the second side has an extension of 5% or less under a load of 5 N.

Claim 10 (New): The hair holder according to claim 1, wherein  
the sheet which forms the first side has a plurality of rows, each of the rows including  
two horizontal openings,  
the horizontal openings in alternate rows overlap one another in a vertical direction,  
and  
the plurality of rows of the horizontal openings are configured to make the sheet  
extensible.

Claim 11 (New): The hair holder according to claim 1, wherein  
the sheet which forms the first side has a plurality of rows, each of the rows including  
three oblique openings,  
the oblique openings in alternate rows overlap one another in a vertical direction, and  
the plurality of rows of the oblique openings are configured to make the sheet  
extensible.

Claim 12 (New): The hair holder according to claim 1, wherein  
the sheet which forms the first side includes a plurality of rectangular pieces, and  
each rectangular piece is configured to partially overlap an adjacent rectangular piece  
in a horizontal direction, and  
the plurality of overlapping rectangular pieces are configured to make the sheet  
extensible.

Claim 13 (New): The hair holder according to claim 12, wherein each of the plurality  
of rectangular pieces is only bonded to the adjacent rectangular piece at side edges thereof.

**Claim 14 (New):** The hair holder according to claim 1, wherein the sheet which forms the first side has the extensibility of at least 30 times the extensibility of the sheet which forms the second side under the load of 5 N.

**Claim 15 (New):** The method according to claim 8, wherein the sheet which forms the first side has the extensibility of at least 30 times the extensibility of the sheet which forms the second side under the load of 5 N.

**Claim 16 (New):** The method according to claim 8, further comprising:  
providing a reinforcing strip in the hair holder having a glass transition temperature at or above a room temperature.